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A SERVICE FOR USE IN TIME OF WAR[1]

SENTENCES.

¶ *To be said by the minister*

Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

The Lord hath prepared his throne for judgment and he will judge the world in righteousness.

Praise the Lord, all ye nations. Praise Him, all ye people.

THE CALL.

It is both right and seemly on this day of national remembrance when we are called together to the house of prayer that we should acknowledge and profess those things that are most commonly believed among us, to the end that in so doing we may strengthen and confirm our faith in the eternal principles of freedom and justice upon which this nation is founded; wherefore I invite all those who are here present to join with me in saying:

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

¶ *To be said by minister and people together, all standing*

We believe that all men have been endowed with the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

We believe that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed.

We believe that we should give to mankind the example of a people guided by an exalted justice and benevolence.

We affirm that our object in the great war into which we have entered is to make the world safe for democracy, to vindicate the principles of peace and of justice, and to set up among the really free and self-governing peoples of the world such a concert of purpose and of action as will henceforth insure the observance of those principles.

We have no selfish ends to serve. We desire no conquest, no dominion. We are but one of the champions of the rights of mankind.

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, and to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

¶ *To be said by the minister*

Bearing these things in mind, let us now as with one voice and one heart, and in a faith that makes faithful, renew our loyalty to those ideals of government for which our fathers pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION.

¶ *To be said by minister and people together*

Accept, O Lord, the pledges of our hearts and the purposes of our souls. Join us in communion with the goodly fellowship of the prophets who proclaim the new births of freedom; with the noble army of martyrs who have died to defend the rights of the people

[1] This program was prepared by the American Unitarian Association, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, from which copies may be secured.

and the good faith of the nations; with the glorious company of heroes who today suffer and strive mightily that righteousness may prevail. Give to us our heritage with the multitude of unknown people whose daily lives are an offering, brave and beautiful, to duty and to native land; that, through their example and the inspiration of thy spirit, we may, when danger is near and the flesh is weak, triumph over every temptation and finally be deemed worthy of everlasting life. *Amen.*

RESPONSIVE READING.

¶ *To be said by minister and people alternately, all standing*

The Lord will bring forth justice to the nations; he will bring forth mercy and truth.

The Lord will not fail nor faint till he have set justice in the earth; until he have burst the cruel yoke asunder and given liberty to the captive and to them that are oppressed.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say this whom he hath redeemed from many lands.

And called from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Oh, let them praise the Lord for his goodness.

And for his wonderful works to the children of men.

Arise, O Lord, that the nations may know thy power; arise, O God, and let not brutish men have dominion upon the earth.

Nor they that know not thy law triumph in their might.

Pour out thy spirit upon all flesh and write thy law upon the hearts of men.

For then shall there be the flame of freedom in men's souls and the light of knowledge in their eyes.

Let justice dwell in the far-off isles.

And righteousness abound among the people.

Let the world be established in equity.

And the glory of the Lord upon all lands.

Be ye then faithful through life and faithful unto death.

For they that do the will of the Lord shall shine as the brightness of the firmament and they that testify for righteousness' sake as the stars forever and ever.

¶ *The service may then proceed with a Scripture lesson and the singing of anthems or hymns, in such order as has become customary in any church. Then may follow these prayers or the minister may offer prayer in his own words.*

Almighty God, to whom alone belongeth power and might, and from whom cometh salvation.

We remember before thee the blessings received from those gone before; and pray that we may transmit them unimpaired to the oncoming generations.

We remember, O Lord, the founders of the republic and those through whose devotion the nation was reborn into a larger liberty.

Lift us, we pray thee, into new courage and steadfastness and make us more worthy of the high trusts committed to us. Amen.

Almighty God, who in the former time didst lead our fathers forth into a large place, and set their feet in the ways of freedom; give thy grace, we pray thee, to us their children, that we may always approve ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Defend our liberties; preserve our unity; save us from sloth and indifference, from

discord and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Fashion into one people the multitude drawn hither out of many kindreds and tongues. In the time of prosperity temper our self-confidence with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble suffer not our trust in thee to fail. *Amen.*

O Lord God, guide, we pray thee, the President of the United States, and grant to him at this time special gifts of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and strength; that, upholding what is right, and following what is true, he may obey thy will and fulfil thy purpose. *Amen.*

Most gracious God, we pray thee for the representatives of the people in Congress assembled; that thou wouldst be pleased to direct and prosper all their deliberations; that all things may be so ordered and settled by their endeavors, that truth, justice, and peace may be established among us for all generations. *Amen.*

O Lord of Hosts, stretch forth thine almighty arm to strengthen and protect those who defend the heritage of freedom; endue them with courage and loyalty; arm them with the whole armor of God that they may be able to stand in the evil day; and grant that in all things they may serve without reproach; and finally achieve the blessings of peace. *Amen.*

O Eternal God, vouchsafe to take into thy almighty protection those who serve their country on the seas. Preserve them from the dangers of the deep, and from the violence of the enemy; that they may be a safeguard unto the United States and a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions. *Amen.*

O Almighty God, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, look with pity, we beseech thee, upon the members of thy family who are now at war.

Restrain us all from hatred, pride, and hardness of heart. Sustain in us the love of justice and mercy.

Give skill and endurance to those who minister in hospital and camp, and hope to those who are in anxiety or distress.

Thou who givest power to the faint and strength to them that have no might, make us fearless in adversity, patient in sorrow, dauntless in faith. Hasten the day when the ties of unity and brotherhood may be restored and evermore firmly established. Amen.